

contacts plate 28. With the jaws open, one of the centering strands, such as strand 16, is positioned so that it overlies the lens 12 by causing strand 16 to be bent by placing the lens 12 and strand 16 against the distal end of the tubular member 18 adjacent to and between the jaws 24 and 26. Thereafter, the jaws 22 and 24 are utilized to grasp the strand 16 and lens 12 as shown in FIG. 3 for inserting the same into the posterior chamber of an eye following removal of the natural lens such as in cataract surgery. The instrument 10 facilitates grasping the lens and one centering strand firmly as illustrated in FIG. 3 so that such lens may be placed behind the iris in one controlled movement. When the actuator plate 30 is manipulated to open the jaws 22, 24, the folded strand returns to the position as shown in FIG. 2. The instrument 10 is structurally interrelated so that the jaws may open while the jaws are inside the eye and without increasing the size of the incision or damaging the eye. Flow passage 32 may be utilized to irrigate or drain the eye in close proximity to the jaws 22, 24.

The present invention may be embodied in other specific forms without departing from the spirit or essential attributes thereof and, accordingly, reference should be made to the appended claims, rather than to the foregoing specification, as indicating the scope of the invention.

I claim:

1. An instrument for inserting and removing an intraocular lens of the type having centering strands, said instrument comprising first and second jaws being formed and shaped to grasp and manipulate said intraocular lens and hold said centering strands, a tubular member, said first jaw being fixed to one end of said tubular member, a rod extending through said tubular member, said second jaw being fixedly secured to one end of said rod, a base plate secured to the other end of said tubular member, an actuator connected to the other end of said rod at a location juxtaposed to and overlying said base plate, wherein one of said actuator and base plate is generally flat while the other is curved or angled so that the central portion of the actuator is closer to the base plate as compared with the side edges of the actuator, said actuator and base plate being arranged to facilitate cooperative manipulation by only a pair of

fingers to oscillate said rod about its longitudinal axis and thereby allow said jaws to be opened, closed and manipulated.

2. An instrument in accordance with claim 1 wherein said jaws extend beyond the end of said tubular member at an acute angle with respect to the longitudinal axis of said tubular member and have a length of about $\frac{1}{8}$ inch.

3. An instrument in accordance with claim 1 including means defining a flow passage for the irrigation or drainage of fluids extending longitudinally along said tubular member and terminating at a port adjacent to said jaw.

4. An instrument in accordance with claim 1 wherein said tubular member has an enlarged diameter portion at said other end.

5. An instrument for manipulating an intraocular lens of the type having centering strands comprising an elongated body member, first and second jaws shaped to grasp and manipulate said intraocular lens, said first jaw being fixedly secured to one end of said member, said second jaw being fixedly secured to one end of a rod, said jaws extending beyond the end of said member, said rod being supported by said body member for oscillation about an axis corresponding to the longitudinal axis of said rod, a base plate secured to the other end of said body member and extending therebeyond, an actuator connected to the other end of said rod and extending to opposite sides thereof, said actuator being juxtaposed to the portion of said base plate which projects beyond said body member, said actuator being curved or angled so that the central portion of the actuator is closer to the base plate as compared with side edges of the actuator so that the actuator has pressure zones adjacent its side edges which may be manipulated by only a finger to oscillate said rod and thereby open or close said jaws.

6. An instrument in accordance with claim 5 including a flow passage for the irrigation or drainage of fluids supported by said body member with a port adjacent said jaws.

7. An instrument in accordance with claim 5 wherein said base plate is larger than said actuator.

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